

(Copy of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question J ? 7314)

**PROSECUTION OF DIRECTORS OF SAMACHAR BHARATI LTD.**

7314. SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI :  
SHRI S. G. SAMANTA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Company Affairs has expressed intention to prosecute the Samachar Bharati Ltd. and its Directors on a number of counts ;

(b) whether the delay on the part of the officers of the Department in initiating such prosecutions ;

(c) whether a number of Directors have resigned in the last three months in protest against the management of Lala Dharam Vir backed by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting ; and

(d) whether the management of this Government company is proposing voluntary liquidation without repaying the loan granted by the Union Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) The Hon'ble Member may please refer to the reply given to Lok Sabha Question No. 3200 answered on 17th March, 1970.

(b) From the latest report received from the Registrar of Companies, Delhi, it appears that prosecutions have not been launched partly because a notice of petition said to have been filed in the Delhi High Court on behalf of the Company and its officer for relief under Section 633(2) of the Companies Act has been received by the Registrar of Companies, Delhi. Copy of the petition has not been served on the Registrar of Companies, Delhi so far.

(c) No, Sir. In the list of the Directors annexed to the Annual Return made upto 27-11-1969 (the latest filed in the Registrar's office), the Company has shown that Sarvashri Veda Vyasa, Prakash Vir and A. K. Jain ceased to be directors with effect from 27-11-1969. The Registrar of Companies has no information whether they have resided in protest against the

management of Lala Dharam Vir. The question of this Ministry backing him does not arise.

(d) the Registrar of Companies, Delhi has no knowledge of any proposal about this Company going into voluntary liquidation.

(Copy of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question J/b. 3200)

**MANAGEMENT OF SAMACHAR BHARATI NEWS AGENCY**

3200. DR. P. MANDAL :  
SHRI S. C. SAMANTA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Company Affairs has received any representations from the Shareholders and other interested public regarding the management of the Samachar Bharati News Agency Ltd. ;

(b) whether the officers of the Department participated in the recent conference called by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in order to diffuse news agency ownership and other problems of the Samachar Bharati ; and

(c) what are the reasons of in-action of the Department to improve the working of this limited liability company with large loans due to the Central and State Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Company Affairs was represented at the meeting of the representatives of the State Governments who are shareholders of this company, convened by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

(c) Samachar Bharati is an independent news agency in which the Governments of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Mysore together hold 19,000 shares out of a total of 19,248 shares comprised in the Share Capital of this company. The Central Government has not purchased any shares in this News Agency but it has advanced a loan of Rs. 1\*50 lakhs with a view to improving the existing arrangements for the